

A Newspaper  
for All the People

# The Torrance Herald

CALIFORNIA NEWS REVIEW

/SEVEN

Torrance  
Population  
8200

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## Agriculture and Husbandry

### Persimmons

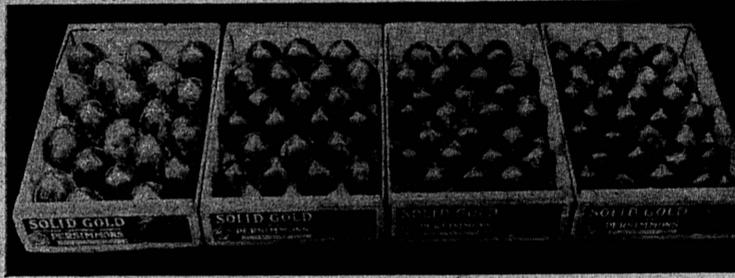
Luscious Oriental fruit of the ebony tree family is the persimmon. Brilliantly orange-red, colorful, it is purchased by the uninitiated consumer as a table decoration for the holiday season. Blushing but firm, it is placed on the table, the buffet, like an apple, a pear. But the uninitiated, not knowing that the persimmon, though blushing, brilliant in color, is still "green" until it has turned brownish-orange and as soft as jelly, bites in, displays disappointment, consternation because the fruit is astringent, packery, unpalatable. He does not know that the persimmon, when brownish-orange in color and as soft as jelly, is delicious with dressing in fruit, served plain with sugar and cream, as an ingredient of ice cream.

But Southern California growers, packers, shippers of persimmons know that the number of initiated persimmon users is becoming larger each year. Orange County (the center of the persimmon industry in Southern California) growers know too that the industry is the youngest in the State; know that the 1929 crop will be larger by some 1450 tons than the crop of 1928; know that the persimmon crop will have the auspicious market than last year's because of the shortage of other deciduous fruit, such as peaches, pears, apples, plums; know that though the crop is large, prices are high, consumer demand on the up-grade.

From the packing plants of the Southern California Persimmon Growers' Association at Fullerton, Tustin, Irvine, Monrovia for the holiday season already have gone tons and tons of brilliant-hued persimmons for the State U. S. domestic and foreign markets. In the years, which have intervened since the Persimmon Growers' Association was founded, persimmon markets have opened up gradually, and enlarged. This year, with the industry still in its infancy, the association plans to tempt the appetites of Australia, South America and Canadian cities.

Carefully graded, attractively packed, each persimmon container shipped out by the association contains instruction for ripening and eating the fruit. This growers and marketers hope to educate consumers, to make more uninitiated buyers persimmon-conscious.

Utilization of culls (left-overs after the best of the fruit has been selected for shipping) is the problem of every fruit grower. Because the persimmon association enforces strict standardization and grading to maintain and deliver a high quality of fruit, there accumulates large amounts of culls. Remembering the example of Chinese and Japanese who use the persimmon extensively in a dried form as a confection, many a successful experiment in drying the fruit has been carried on by the Division of Fruit Products at the University of California. But, of Hachiya persimmons (the common California variety) found an unswelcome reception. The fact that



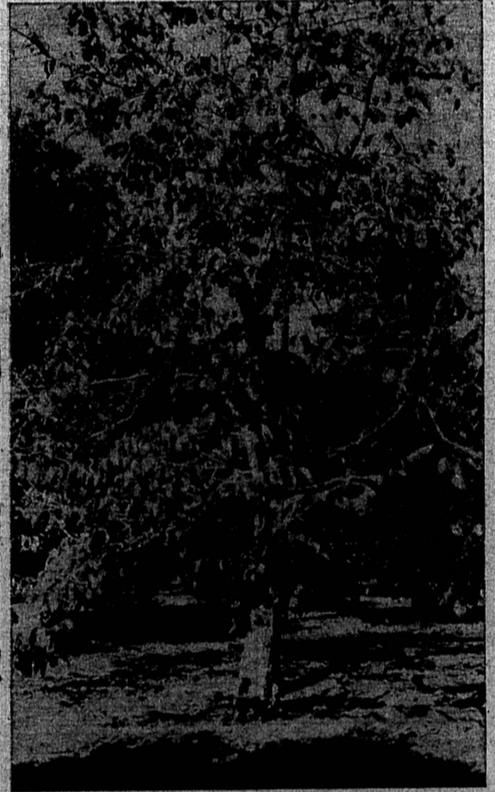
STANDARD PACK OF HACHIYA PERSIMMONS

Carefully graded, each box contains instructions for ripening, eating.

appearance counts for much among American housewives, blackballed the dried persimmon, for the Hachiya variety, when dried, had a dark, unsightly appearance, was not at all "pretty." The Fuyu variety, however, showed up more favorably. (This is a nonastringent

ornament of the fruit bowl, but a staple, well-liked, commonly eaten fruit.

Mother tree of the Southern California persimmon industry, a giant Hachiya, still stands near Placentia. Now fifty years old, it



NEAR PLACENTIA, "MOTHER" HACHIYA  
... 50 years old, the source of much hawswood.

variety, but limited as to supply. Probably less than fifty acres of Fuyu persimmons are planted in the entire U. S.)

University experimenters, however, found that Hachiya persimmon pulp could be frozen successfully.

Uses for dried persimmons: as a base for ice cream coloring, flavoring; frozen desserts; malted milk, milk shakes; other dishes, drinks.

The persimmon industry is still in its infancy. Its growers are still pioneering and the persimmon association is young. In the ensuing years, persimmon growers, marketers, experimenters, hope to uncover new methods of production, locate and utilize markets yet untouched, and discover uses for every persimmon picked from the trees. As citrus men of old envisioned the world-wide popularity of the California orange (News Review, Nov. 18-Dec. 1), so persimmon growers look forward to the time when persimmons will no longer be regarded a curious table

### Walnut Record

Walnut growers who belong to the California Walnut Growers' Association received last week checks totalling in value \$1,200,000, representing payment on 10 per cent of this year's harvested walnut crop. As walnut growers harvested their crops and sack after sack throughout California was packed for shipment, piled high, walnut statisticians, counting up the output, found that with one exception the crop (42,000 tons) showed an increase of 50 per cent over last year, that it was worth more than \$15,300,000 to growers. This large sum of financial return was exceeded only in 1927 when \$17,487,000 was realized.

California Walnut Growers' Association, as far back as 1913 hand-

led 51 per cent of the State's walnut production. Now it handles 85 per cent of all California walnuts, the largest percentage cooperative control of any farming industry in the United States. The association maintains 34 packing houses in Southern California and 9 in Northern and Central California.

A new plant this year has doubled the association's capacity for the manufacture of by-products, which during the last two years has become an important part of the walnut industry. The culls, which are used exclusively for the shelled walnut business, are returning approximately 8 cents per pound, compared with two cents a pound a few years ago. The canning division, which packs the shelled walnuts in air-tight containers, was but an experiment six years ago; this year an output of 8,000,000 cans is expected. Other by-products are walnut oil, fertilizer, and poultry and stock feed, the latter made from the shells.

In the matter of production, Ventura in the last three years jumped from third to first place, and is now producing 40 per cent of the State's crop. Los Angeles and Orange county rank second and third, respectively. Riverside and San Bernardino have both shown rapid development in walnut production.

From the Southland are recruited many men to assume important positions in the national government. Most distant is California of all states from the nation's capital, yet the ability of many a Californian has merited official recognition at Washington. Last week Angelino L. A. Strong, stalwart, broad shouldered, substantial, was drafted to serve in the national cabinet. His post is to head the plant quarantine and control administration, highest position in quarantine work.

An expert in quarantine activity is Californian Strong. For twenty years he has devoted himself to quarantine work. He started as a horticultural inspector for Los Angeles County in 1910; this week he assumes his new role, with the entire United States as his field of activity.

In 1912, Strong inaugurated plant quarantine inspection at Los Angeles Harbor, rising from there to the top of California's quarantine work. His efforts developed quarantine achievements in California until they surpassed those of every other state. As a result, in 1926 Strong was recruited by the national government for direct national port inspection work. California soon called him back to serve her as assistant Director of Agriculture, which positions he last fortnight resigned to return to Washington.

Besides insect pests, frost, adverse climatic conditions, a serious menace to the citrus grower is the human being who subsists by thievery. Once, thieves, when they raided orange groves, only pilfered small amounts of fruit. But methods of orange thievery have changed. Last September (News Review, Sept. 23-29), at Fullerton, one Bank President S. W. Smith, a few days before he planned to harvest his crop of Valencia, went to his ten-acre grove to make a final survey, found thieves had preceded him, found each tree thoroughly stripped of fruit. Later, near Anaheim, the grove of Mrs. Emma J. Hill was robbed of 2000

boxes of oranges, its entire production. (News Review, Oct. 14-20).

In view of these and other serious thefts, Redlands packing house managers met last week to circulate orange thefts. Naval oranges, think growers and packers, will be worth high prices this season due to the short crop and will therefore tempt many a thief. Main defensive weapon decided upon by the packers: To finance large rewards for the apprehension of citrus stealers. Last year, however, even with the rewards offered and paid to many, \$10,000 worth of fruit was lost.

While Los Angeles' Mayor John Porter, in the course of the day's work, sat in his office last week, Texas Gov. Frank M. King paid him a visit. Customary formal introductions ensued. Then from his pocket Gov. King brought forth a piece of hide, part of a delectable maverick steer. Amazed but nonplussed, Mayor Porter unfolded it, read a message burned indelibly upon the surface inviting him to attend what sponsors called the greatest live-stock show in the West, at the Los Angeles Union Stockyards, beginning last Saturday and lasting throughout this week.

At Los Angeles hotels and in Los Angeles stables many a famous stock exhibitor and stock exhibit had come from all over the country. And throughout this week, Los Angeles is the mecca of thousands of live-stock producers and their prize exhibits from the entire territory west of the Missouri River.

Center of the greatest lamb producing state in the country, and often termed capital of the cattle world, because so many western cattlemen make it their business headquarters, Los Angeles last week made extensive preparations for its live-stock show. It provided a huge fire-proof tent to house the exhibits, and arranged, besides the regular exhibits and prize awards, many an exciting entertainment feature including a cowboy band, juvenile band; performances by prominent "western thriller" motion picture actors, including Ken Maynard, Hoot Gib-

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Progress

Two Bikes Stolen From Local Theatre

Bicycles belonging to A. Dumont, 2731 Arlington avenue and Paul Kasper, 2260 Eldorado avenue, were stolen from outside the Torrance theatre a couple of days ago. Full descriptions of the bikes have been given to the local police who are looking for the thieves.

Christmas Bargain Saturday This Week, December 14

The last Bargain Saturday of the year will be staged by Torrance Merchants this week, and a tempting array of Christmas values has been prepared to attract buyers to Torrance stores.

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Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday.

Here are the men delegated by Governor C. C. Young and A. R. Heron, state director of finance, to carry on the 1930 California State Fair and Pageant of Progress. Constituted as the California State Agricultural Society, they are: Back row, left to right: Harold J. McCurry of Sacramento, Fred H. Bixby of Long Beach, Charles W. Paine of Sacramento, Edward Din-

kelspiel of Sulam and W. H. Brooks of El Centro. Front row—Carl A. Melcher of Melville, Sam H. Green of Oakland, T. H. Hamer of Red Bluff, R. A. Condee of Chico, John M. Perry of Stockton, Ellis Franklin of Colfax, Justus F. Craemer of Orange and A. C. Har- dison of Santa Paula. Condee is president of the state fair and Paine, secretary-manager.

As 1930 is the eightieth anniversary of the admission of California to the Union, the State Fair next year will have as its theme "Eighty Years of Progress", and will be planned on a greater scale than ever before. It is expected arrangements will be made whereby the other western states, Canada, Mexico, Alaska and Hawaii will join in the mammoth exposition.

The big event will be held at Sacramento, opening August 30th and concluding on Admission Day, September 9th.

TWO CARS HIT; NOBODY HURT

Cars driven by June Johnson of the Norman Arms apartments and Walker Schroeder, 911 Portola avenue, collided at the intersection of Portola and Redondo boulevard Saturday evening around 6 o'clock. No one was injured in the crash.

### City Square



It was the 50-year-old with its 1000 colored

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### TORRANCE RNA WIN CONTEST FOR MEMBERS

Torrance Royal Neighbors Drill Team Work Highly Applauded

Climaxing a two months' life insurance and membership contest drive in which seven camps of the Royal Neighbors of America vied for honors, the Torrance camp was acclaimed victorious last Thursday night when the society met in Inglewood to hold its initiatory ritual.

Through earnest endeavor the Torrance camp brought the amount of its insurance up to \$8,420.00 above the \$10,000 quota, set for each camp when the drive was launched in October, and Inglewood fell short of the Torrance figure only \$172.00. The remaining camps, Sawtelle, Ocean Park, San Pedro, Redondo and Culver City, will have to bring in the required amount by June, when the jubilee contest ends, Mrs. Kirchner, district deputy stated.

In all, ninety-five new members were brought into the society, and fifty-one of that number were initiated, with Mrs. Norah Kinser, orator of the Redondo camp, participating on the work. The Inglewood and Torrance drill teams did some beautiful work, and were highly complimented by State Supervisor Mrs. Christiana Hamill, who recently toured the state for the purpose of visiting R. N. A. camps and investigating activities in them.

Mrs. Hamill declared that Thursday night's class was the largest she has yet had an opportunity to participate in. She urges members to continue in their efforts to secure new members for this progressive organization which has a membership of over 600,000.

A delightful entertainment program, featuring vocal and piano numbers, and a two act play, concluded the evening's performance.

GET LICENSE PLATES WED. AFTERNOONS

The new 1930 automobile license plates may be procured over the counter at the Oakland-Pontiac agency, 1912 Carson street, on Monday, December 16th, and every Wednesday afternoon thereafter until January 15th. This service is offered by the Automobile Club of Southern California to its members and also to non-residents who are making applications for their first California license. G. S. Evans, representative of the Southern California club stated.

Only thirty days is allowed by the state this year for motorists to secure license, and drivers are urged to make their applications early for this reason. It will be unlawful to drive with 1929 plates after January 15th unless application has been made for new plates by that time.

FOOD SALE

Lutheran Ladies' Aid ladies will hold a food and apron sale at the Piggly Wiggly Saturday, December 14, beginning at 9:30.

ONLY 12 SHOPPING DAYS 'TIL CHRISTMAS

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